

GEORGE HYRUM BARZEE

George Hyrum Barzee, native of Bountiful, was born Sept. 10, 1860, to George and Amanda Buys Barzee and was raised by his grandmother Buys. His education began at an early age. In order for his Aunt Elizabeth Buys Sellers to receive an education, she had to take George to school and tend him; he took his naps on a bed in the corner made of coats. His regular schooling began at the age of four. His teachers were a Mrs. Farnum, then Hannah Holbrook. Her kitchen was the school room, and here he learned his ABC's. Their books were anything they could procure. At eight years of age, he read in the McGuffy third reader brought across the plains by his family in 1850. At this time, he completed the Webster Elementary Spelling Book with a large class, some of the boys were six feet tall and the girls were old enough to go to dances. At the age of 19, he went to what was called High School in Heber in the Bennie Norris' house, located in the corner of 2nd N. Main where the Highway Motel now stands. His uncle, William Buys, was the teacher. In 1882, he taught school, the Third Reader class in the "Upper" School House located where the First Ward Church now stands, with William Buys as Principal and teacher. Classes were taught by "readers" instead of "grades."

By saving his money, he was finally able to attend the University of Deseret, now U. of Utah, at the age of 26. In 1888-89 he taught school at Wallsburg, also at Charles-ton.

He helped with the first issue of the Wasatch Wave, Mar. 23, 1889. William Buys was founder and editor. He also served as editor Dec. 16, 1890, to Mar. 28, 1895, and again during and after the illness and death of Mr. Buys.

He took up the study of surveying under Mr. Buys and succeeded his Uncle Edward Buys as Surveyor of Wasatch County, which he held for many years. He was Justice of the Peace and married more than 56 couples during his term of office. He was also an Abstractor.

He was a booster for getting the telephone and railroad into Heber, and served as their first telephone operator. At that time, he was working in an office. They began with one telephone. If a message or

call would come, which was not too often, he would see that the people were notified.

He served as a member of the school board of trustees, and was Secretary-Treasurer of American Order of United Workmen, a lodge at that time. He passed away Oct. 26, 1927.

He married Emily Jane Carlile Sept. 10, 1891, and they had the following children: Cleo (Mrs. William McIntire), Emily (Mrs. Frank Conrad), Marie (Mrs. Bert Murray), Lavella (Mrs. Joseph Gillam).

Emily Jane Carlile Barzee was one of a family of six children. She was born Oct. 12, 1868, to James and Emily Ann Giles Carlile, some of the first settlers of this valley. Their home was at first a three-room log house, later replaced by a two story red brick house, 1st North and 3rd West.

Schools were not graded as they are today. They were graded by readers, first to eighth. Those who could afford it, finished their education in Provo or Salt Lake City. Her first teacher was Kezia Carroll Esplin, a cousin. The school was a one-room rock building situated in the northwestern part of town across the street from John W. Witt, now owned by his son Jesse Witt, 2nd W. 3rd N. The desks were wide boards, and a long bench without a back served as seats. Students would sit on both sides and study until class was called, then stand to recite.

Her next teacher was Nora Duke Cummings. Then later there were two teachers. Heber Moulton taught in the west end of the room and Frederick Giles in the east, with no division between. She also attended John Glenn's school in the same building. She finished her schooling at Sleepy Hollow school, Third South and Second West. Bishop Henry Clegg was the teacher. There was a fee of \$3.00 for nine months.

Sunday School was held in the afternoon. A ticket was given for each attendance, twelve tickets could be exchanged for a larger one and they were exchanged for a large picture or a book. She taught Sunday School for several years while William Lindsay was superintendent. She was active in LDS Relief Society and first assistant to Teenie Duke, Captain of the Wasatch County Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

Sleigh riding and dancing were chief amusements. The dances began at 8 p.m. and the fellows would draw for partners. A group of girls would prepare supper at 11:30, the

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dance would resume and continue until 1 or 2 a.m.

She died Nov. 11, 1948.

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